

REMARKS

This is in response to the office action mailed December 3, 2004. A Petition for a one month extension of time together with payment accompanies this response.

Claims 6 to 8 are now in this application. Claims 1 to 5 have been cancelled without prejudice.

The Examiner has rejected claims 2 to 5 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and claims 1 to 5 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. It is submitted that the amended claims submitted herewith address the Examiner's findings in this regard and that the amended claim overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

On the merits, the claims as filed are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Constantine (claim 1) and over Betz in view of Channing '741 (claims 2 to 5). However, the Examiner will note that the amended claims submitted herewith are drafted more concisely and that the combination of features recited in these amended claims clearly define over the references cited, whether individually or in combination.

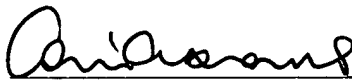
As such, favorable reconsideration of all of the claims and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

April 4, 2005

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at telephone number (818)710-2788.

Please acknowledge safe receipt of this correspondence by stamping and returning the enclosed postcard.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 4, 2005.



Colin P. Abrahams